

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY QWEST |) | ORDER GRANTING |
| CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL OF A |) | AMENDED CERTIFICATES |
| REVISION TO ITS PIERRE-FORT PIERRE |) | OF AUTHORITY AND |
| LOCALITY SPECIAL RATE AREA MAP |) | ORDER APPROVING |
| |) | REVISION TO QWEST'S |
| |) | PIERRE-FORT PIERRE |
| |) | LOCALITY SPECIAL RATE |
| |) | AREA MAP |
| |) | TC00-178 |

On November 8, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Qwest Corporation (Qwest) for approval of a revision to its Pierre-Fort Pierre Locality Special Rate Area Map. On January 26, 2001, Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (Golden West) filed a letter with the Commission joining in the request. The territory being removed from the Qwest Pierre-Fort Pierre exchange will now be in the Golden West exchange territory and Golden West will serve the customers in that area. On January 16, 2001, the Commission received a letter from Qwest requesting an Amended Certificate of Authority and on January 26, 2001, the Commission received a letter from Golden West requesting an Amended Certificate of Authority, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69. Qwest and Golden West also requested a waiver of subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03, as the Commission already has the information needed on file.

On November 9, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 24, 2000, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

On February 6, 2001, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' request for approval of a revision to Qwest's Pierre-Fort Pierre Locality Special Rate Area Map, the requests for Amended Certificates of Authority, and a waiver of subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Qwest and Golden West have met the legal requirements established for the granting of amended certificates of authority. Qwest and Golden West have, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03. Further, the Commission finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69, the Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted, that the proposed revision to Qwest's Pierre-Fort Pierre Locality Special Rate Area Map is in the public interest and the request shall be granted, and ARSD 20:10:32:03, subparagraphs

1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 shall be waived. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the requests for Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the proposed revision to Qwest's Pierre-Fort Pierre Locality Special Rate Area Map shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21 and 23 shall be waived.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of February, 2001.

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| <p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p> |
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner